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B2  
personnel, under control of the processor 12. Information can be read from disk drive 24 or CD-ROM drive 26 for the purpose of displaying same to the ~~user/manager~~ user/administrator/manager. A control program, or a suite of such programs, for the purpose of carrying out the processes of the present invention can be stored on one or both of disk drive 24 or CD-ROM 26 for access by processor 12. Processor 12 is thus able to carry out any of a number of prestored processes that provide for the multiplicity of functions to be described herein.

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Please replace the paragraph on page 8, beginning with "In some cases" and ending with "skill level" with the following:

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B3  
In some cases the gap 206 is sufficiently great that a plurality of courses will need to be assigned to the user. For example, if the user has a skill level of "1" for a particular skill, and the desired skill level is "5," the user will be assigned a training regimen comprising courses ~~matched~~ linked to skill levels 1 through 5 of that skill, so that all prerequisites are met en route to achieving the desired skill level.

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Please replace the paragraph on page 22, beginning with "Score 1" and ending with "weight table" with the following:

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B4  
**Score 1.** An exemplary algorithm for calculating Score 1 is as follows, with the calculation performed for each word from word #1 to word #n in the ~~desired~~ skill and every course (i.e., training intervention). This score looks at each word in the skilling object and compares it to the words in each training intervention. If words are duplicated in the skilling object's words, the calculation is only performed once for each word. The software adjusts

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B4 for singular and/or plurals. For example, a singular form of a word found in the training intervention and a plural form found in the skilling object are treated as equal. A default word weight value of "1" is given for each word unless modified by the word weight table.

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Please replace the paragraph on page 24, beginning with "Returning to FIG. 4" and ending on page 25 with "association" with the following:

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B5 Returning to FIG. 4, the "score" 505 as calculated by the matching algorithm 503 for the results of the mapping of the skill ID 501 to the course description 502 is tabulated. A threshold level 506, which is selectable by the administrator, provides a cutoff below which a course 502 is not considered. The administrator can also select matches "manually" and create desired links in the neighborhood of the threshold 506. With automatic linkage 507 the system 10 proceeds directly to updating the appropriate course metadata element(s) 508 in the metadata database 207; with semiautomatic linkage 511 the administrator intervenes by setting a desired competency level 509 prior to updating the metadata element(s) 508. The automatic linkage 507 establishes the association of the skill to the course. The semiautomatic link 511 establishes the competency level acquired from the course, as well as the association.

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Please replace the paragraph on page 25 beginning with "Specifically," and ending with "of:" with the following:

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B6 Specifically, the administrator creates links along the automatic pathway 507 or the semiautomatic pathway 511 by a combination of:

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Please replace the paragraph on page 26 beginning with "When the linking" and ending with "intervention" with the following:

B7  
When the linking process is complete, the ~~metadata for each course are accessed,~~  
~~and the competency level of each skill linked to a course is set 509, as stated above.~~ The  
administrator then can call up a screen that permits viewing the training intervention metadata  
elements. When a particular training intervention is selected, the metadata are displayed  
along with all links to skilling objects. The administrator can then insert or modify the  
competency level for any linked training intervention. If the administrator wishes, he/she can  
also select a skilling object to see which training interventions are linked to it and insert or  
modify the competency level for any linked training intervention.

Please replace paragraph c. on page 30 with the following:

B8 sub c. c. The provision to link ~~(either by individual selections, above a threshold~~  
or between scores) and to set the competency levels provided (block 637).